



**Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission  
Racial and Ethnic Disparities Committee  
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family**

A general meeting of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission (AJJC) Racial and Ethnic Disparities Committee was convened August 22, 2019, at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, 1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (6)	
Helen Gándara, Chair	Alice Bustillo
Jennifer Ortiz	Earl Newton
Angie Lopez	Celena Angsted
Staff/Guests Present (4)	Members Absent (0)
Steve Selover, GOYFF	
Lance Meeks, Metro Goodwill	
Erin Galloway, GOYFF Intern	
Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF Intern	

**Call to Order**

- **Ms. Helen Gándara**, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. with six members and four staff and guests present.

**Welcome/Introductions**

- Introductions were made by committee members present. New members **Angie Lopez** and **Celena Angsted** were welcomed.

**Approval of Minutes**

- **Ms. Gándara**, Chair, requested a motion to approve the June 13, 2019, meeting minutes.
  - **Ms. Alice Bustillo** motioned to approve the minutes as drafted.
  - **Ms. Jennifer Ortiz** seconded the motion.
- The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

**Committee Action Plan**

- **Mr. Steve Selover** provided members with a draft copy of the committee action plan based on input gathered at the most recent meeting. The plan lists three separate goals of the committee and several action steps identified for accomplishing the goals. The document also included a list of current and proposed members.
- **Mr. Gándara**, Chair, stated the plan should more explicitly describe how the work supports the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and the committee's role in informing the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission.
- Discussion of the work plan shifted to membership. **Ms. Angie Lopez** introduced Lance Meeks as a community leader in Tucson. **Ms. Lopez** proposed to **Ms. Gándara** and the committee at large that Mr. Meeks join the committee membership due to his experience working with vulnerable youth and knowledge of community resources.
- **Ms. Gándara**, Chair, and the committee approved the proposal and welcomed Mr. Weeks on to the committee.
- The committee discussed the importance of youth involvement in the work of reducing racial and ethnic disparities and decided to pursue at least two youth members to join the committee. Committee members asked whether travel reimbursement and a stipend to incentivize attendance. **Mr. Selover** advised he will check with the finance manager to determine whether this is allowed.

- The committee also discussed adding a parent or representative of parent support groups. **Ms. Lopez** advised Yuma County has a well-established parent support workgroup. **Ms. Bustillo** added that Jane Kallal, a member of the commission, would be a good contact for outreach to parent groups given her agency's focus on parent engagement.
- **Ms. Gándara**, Chair, asked for suggestions for potential representatives of law enforcement and suggested a representative from the Tucson Police Department. **Ms. Lopez** stated she will ask the assistant chief in Tucson. **Ms. Ortiz** stated she will contact the Phoenix Police Department assistant chief for suggestions.
- **Mr. Selover** stated he will reach out to **Maria Dodge** from the commission to represent the public defender's office.
- **Mr. Earl Newton** will reach out to a member of the Arizona Center for African-American Resources to serve as a community member.
- **Mr. Selover** stated he was contacted by someone who was very involved in the RED work in St. Louis and is interested in serving on the committee as a community member. He added that this person is working on her Ph.D and is currently employed by the Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department.
- **Ms. Ortiz** and **Ms. Lopez** stated they can reach out to their colleagues who collect and report data to inquire their interest on serving on the committee.
- **Ms. Gándara**, Chair, advised that the next meeting will include new members, and the focus will be to complete the work plan. **Ms. Gándara** stated she would prefer the action steps are framed more specifically. **Mr. Selover** stated he will work on narrowing the focus of the current items listed.

#### 2019 Conference

- **Mr. Selover** advised members of the upcoming Racial and Ethnic Disparities Conference held in Scottsdale in November.
- **Ms. Lopez** stated that Pima and Pinal counties proposed a joint workshop session regarding to share their community engagement efforts. Mr. Meeks and Ms. Lopez provided a summary of Pima County's approach to target a neighborhood that had higher crime rates. A major request from the residents was to learn about available resources. This led to a block party that involved 60 community agencies and the restoration of a local park. The initiative was successful and many community members stated they are looking forward to the next event.
- **Ms. Ortiz** and **Ms. Celena Angstead** advised the Pinal County Juvenile Court focused its event in a jurisdiction that was lacking identity due to its proximity between larger nearby communities. Their events encouraged residents to interact with local law enforcement and learn what services are provided by the court.
- **Ms. Gándara** stated she would like scholarships for commission members to attend the conference given that the conference is local this year, and this will be a good opportunity for multiple commissioners to learn about racial and ethnic disparities.

#### Call to the Public

- **Ms. Gándara**, Chair, made a call to the public. No public was present to answer the call.

#### Adjournment

- **Ms. Gándara** requested a motion to adjourn.
  - **Ms. Bustillo** motioned to adjourn the meeting.
  - **Ms. Ortiz** seconded the motion.
- The motion carried without objection. The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Dated August 29, 2019  
AJJC Racial and Ethnic Disparities Committee  
Submitted by Steve Selover, GOYFF Program Administrator